

COLONEL STONE KILLED

In an Altercation With a King-fisher Farmer.

DETAILS AS YET MEAGRE

Deceased Was One of Oklaho-ma's Foremost Men.

Kingfisher, O. T., Jan. 11.—Colonel John F. Stone, formerly of Guthrie, but late president of the People's bank, of this city, was shot and instantly killed today at 3:30 p. m. on the farm of James Walcher, eight miles northeast of this place. The major left town immediately after dinner to look after some cattle kept on the farm of Walcher on which he had a mortgage, and it is supposed that some altercation took place between the parties in regard to the cattle, when the shooting took place. Word was brought to the city and the coroner and sheriff, with a posse of men, have started to the scene. It is impossible to obtain any further particulars at this time. Mr. Stone's wife and child are here, and the first they knew of the death of the husband and father was when the news was taken to them by the acting cashier of the bank, Mr. John Callan. Mrs. Stone is prostrated with the blow. It will be impossible to get the full particulars until tomorrow. Walcher is a farmer who has resided on his claim in Excelsior township, Kingfisher county, since 1883 and is regarded as a fair citizen in the community where he resides. He is high-tempered and one who gets violently angry and has the reputation of not having much control over himself when in the heat of passion.

Guthrie, O. T., Jan. 11.—A telephone message from Kingfisher states that Colonel John F. Stone, president of the People's bank, of Kingfisher, was shot and killed this afternoon on a farm near Crescent, which he was taking possession of on a debt, his slayer, Walcher by name, and who owned the farm, made his escape. No other particulars have been received here. Colonel Stone formerly lived in Guthrie, was assistant United States attorney under Harrison's administration, and colonel of the First regiment, U. S. A. In the war with Spain he was major of the territorial volunteer regiment. He was active in Republican politics and occupied a foremost place.

OF THE IRON AND STEEL TRADES

Iron Age Reports a Decrease in Productive Capacity.

New York, Jan. 11.—Discussing the condition of the iron and steel trades, the Iron Age says today: "During the fact that a considerable number of southern blast furnaces were banked during the holidays, our blast furnace returns for the first of this month show that productive capacity entered the new year at a smaller rate than it was early in December. This, however, is only a temporary matter. Slowly a number of additional stocks are getting ready for work and the output is likely to go on increasing, provided, however, that there be no accidents. Just now the fuel supply is getting to be serious. We hear of banking now, and there is much significance, too, in the report that the famous Edgar-Thomson coke pile must be drawn upon. In other words, the blast department in the clockwork movement in the pig iron industry promptly checks the current enormous production. In foundry brass the market is practically at a deadlock. Important consuming interests are holding off to test the resistance of makers, while the majority of the latter are indifferent. The steel market is exceedingly dull. In finished material there is some stiffening, notably in the west, where an understanding among leading interests seems to have been reached on the prices of bars and of sheet. A better feeling prevails in the sheet trade. Isaac W. Frank of Pittsburgh has again been appointed to receive orders on the sheet mills, and has a number of them, which expire on April 1. It seems that even if some large interests in the Pittsburgh district do not join, the work of consolidation is to go forward. In structural material and in plates business has been rather quiet lately. Since the opening of the year a considerable number of announcements of increases in wages have been made. In steel mills every one is dealing with very large bodies of men who are thus sharing in the prosperity of the iron trade."

STATEMENT AS TO SMALLPOX

Issued by the Board of Health at Ponca City.

Guthrie, O. T., Jan. 11.—The Ponca City board of health has issued the following notice:

In view of the widespread prevalence of smallpox in various parts of the country, and the exaggerated reports that are being circulated in regard to our own locality, we believe that a statement of the facts as they exist will be of value to the public in general.

At the present time there is but one family afflicted with smallpox in this city. It is isolated and carefully quarantined. Suspected cases are carefully watched and every possible precaution is being taken to prevent the spread of the disease. A special sanitary police meets all trains on the lookout for all infected cases, and exposed cases brought to the knowledge of the health board will be quarantined as required by law.

All the people exposed to disease in surrounding towns and neighborhoods are requested to remain in quarantine until proper disinfection, and sufficient time has elapsed to preclude all possibility of carrying the disease. Should such people be found here, they will be promptly placed in the detention hospital until all danger has passed.

This order will be strictly enforced.

H. W. SHAFER, M. D.,
President, City Board of Health.
J. B. DRAKE, Chairman.
W. A. THOMAS,
A. C. SMITH,
HENRY SING.

Health Police,
Subscribed and sworn to before me this January 9, 1899.
C. H. OGDEN,
Notary Public.
My commission expires June 1, 1900.

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DARKEST OF DARK HORSES

Will be Governor Barnes' Successor.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Governor Barnes' friends here have taken new heart in the light which is being made to remove him. What the change in the situation is to warrant this is not divulged, but it is thought to be influence brought through Mr. Dick of Ohio, to have Governor Barnes retained. Mr. Dick is secretary of the national Republican central committee and it is understood that the president will be guided largely by his requests in the matter. It is said that Dick is for the retention of Governor Barnes. In the meantime the opponents of Barnes are already musing as to his successor. The consensus of opinion is that if there is to be a successor he will be the darkest of dark horses, a personal selection by President McKinley.

FAVORABLE FOR FREE HOMES

Is to be the Committee Report on Pettigrew's Bill.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The senate committee on Indian affairs today authorized a favorable report upon Senator Pettigrew's bill for free homes on lands ceded from the Indians.

Bubonic Plague Reported at Rio. Washington, Jan. 11.—The bubonic plague has made its appearance at Rio Janeiro, as is shown by the following cablegram received here tonight by Surgeon-General Wymann of the Marine Hospital service: "There has been one death from plague at Rio Janeiro. This disease is confined by bacteriological examination." Some weeks ago cases of the plague were said to exist at Santos, and it would not be surprising to the officials here if later developments show that the case at Rio Janeiro is traceable to Santos. It was from Santos that the plague ship Taylor, with a cargo of coffee, arrived at New York some time ago.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES

Shanghai, Jan. 11.—Li Hung Chang arrived here on his way to assume the viceroyship of Liang Kwang.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Senator Baker today introduced a bill creating a preserve for American bison in New Mexico.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The quartermaster general has been informed that the quartermaster of the Tenth cavalry, who has arrived at Galveston.

City of Mexico, Jan. 11.—Twenty-six cotton mills have been built in this country during last year, and new mills are being started for completion.

Mt. Sterling, Ky., Jan. 11.—The McBrayer distillery will start this week after being idle for years. This is one of the largest distilleries in the state.

Chicago, Jan. 11.—Augusta Stryzanski, 11 years old, and her two-year-old sister, were burned to death in their home today. The children had been playing with matches.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 11.—Mrs. Elizabeth J. French of Philadelphia, one of the best known women physicians in the country, died at her daughter's home here late this afternoon.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 11.—Alexander Williams, bookseller and publisher, died at his home here today, aged 81 years. Mr. Williams was for many years proprietor of the Boston Courier.

New York, Jan. 11.—The New York and Staten Island land company made an assignment today. Liabilities \$22,000, of which \$25,000 is unsecured; assets \$20,000, consisting of improved real estate.

Denver, Colo., Jan. 11.—Thomas Linton, one of the most prominent Masons in the United States, died today. He was born in England in 1824. He has been a member of the Masonic grand lodge of Colorado since 1850.

Peter, Minn., Jan. 11.—Hon. Jasper Bean, of Cranby, this county, died last night from injuries sustained in a runaway. He was 71 years old. He represented this county in the legislature fifteen years ago.

Annapolis, Md., Jan. 11.—Hon. Murray Vandiver of Harvard county was today elected treasurer of the state by the general assembly. He was elected by a large majority.

Kearney, Neb., Jan. 11.—The preliminary examination of Theodore Nelson charged with murdering his father and burying the remains in the barnyard, was held today and resulted in his being held for trial without bail.

Morgantown, Mo., Jan. 11.—Mrs. Matine A. Moorehouse, aged 62 years, widow of Albert P. Moorehouse, ex-governor of Missouri, died here after a long illness. Governor Moorehouse committed suicide at his home here in 1891.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 11.—The injunction proceedings in the mayoralty case, involving George M. Clark from exercising the duties of the office of mayor, were dissolved by Judge Hughes today. Clark is now in possession of the office.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 11.—Albert H. Perry, formerly mayor of that city, and Dr. D. H. White, and Miss Emma White of Georgetown, O., were married at noon today at Christ church cathedral, Canon Smith officiating. Both are well known in theatrical life.

Wells City, Mo., Jan. 11.—Three miners were killed this evening by a cave-in at the Harbison mine. In this city, on the Center Creek company's land, Jacob Carter, Charles Stone and John Lloyd were buried under fifty tons of earth, all being instantly killed.

Boston, Jan. 11.—By a unanimous vote the executive council today committed the sentence of Edward Ray Snow, the 15-year-old murderer, from death by electrocution to life imprisonment. Snow recently pleaded guilty to a charge of murdering James T. Whitcomb last September.

New York, Jan. 11.—The grand jury today found an indictment for assault in the first degree against Willis Rosser, the medical student who shot Frederick Slater of Rahway, N. J. Rosser, while a soldier, recently killed a man in San Francisco and was tried for murder and acquitted.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Major C. E. Carter, assistant military physician, reported this morning that his condition was slightly improved. Dr. Carter stated that while General Greeley could not be said to be improving rapidly, he was progressing toward recovery with encouraging steadiness.

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 11.—The structure known as the Municipal building was quarantined today because an applicant for a charter had discovered to be afflicted with smallpox. In this building are located the two recorder's courts, two police courts and various minor offices. The health department took charge of the victim.

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BELIEVED IN GHOSTS

Though Dr. Elliot Coues Was a Noted Scientist

HE FOLLOWED SPOOKOLOGY

Which He Considered as Itself Scientific.

Dr. Elliott Coues, the famous ornithologist and member of the National Academy of Sciences, who died a week ago, was long recognized as the foremost advocate of belief in the existence of ghosts. He had promised several of his friends that if he were to die he would appear to them after his own demise, and now they are waiting with no little interest to see if he will carry out the agreement. Himself a born ghost-seer, as he used to say, he enjoyed discussing the subject of phantoms in the same methodical way that he analyzed the habits of birds or any other matter susceptible of approach by rational argument. One who was so fortunate as to possess his friendship for many years on many a Sunday afternoon has spent an hour or two with him in his study, over a pipe and a dish of tea, talking spooks.

"I have seen myself the ghosts of a good many dear persons," said the doctor one day. "I remember one occasion when I had just gone to bed, the light being turned out, I was composing myself to slumber when I suddenly became aware of a presence in the room. The impression conveyed to my mind was that of the presence of a person lately deceased, with whom I had been on most intimate terms. In fact, I had an overpowering sense of the nearness of the individual in question."

"At about the same moment there arose slowly from the floor a nebulous vapor which began to take shape, as did the smoke from a casket opened by the fisherman in the Arabian Nights tale. Gradually I assumed a more distinct outline, until I presented a radiant image of my friend. The lips appeared to move, and from them came an intelligible utterance—a message, in short, from the departed. I do not care to say what that message was."

"I can assure you that the vision was no dream, and the nature of the message was such as to eliminate, to my own satisfaction at all events, the theory of hallucination. What, then, was this shape of shining white vapor? Was it a human soul? It is a question pregnant with interest."

The doctor took another pipeful of tobacco, lighted it, and, with a reflective puff or two, continued:

"Every afternoon at about 5 o'clock I sit down on the sofa in my library for a while enjoying this recess, though perfectly well-awake, there comes upon me the peculiar sensation of the ghost chill, which I will presently speak of. I wait with much attention and interest to see what is going to happen, and presently I find my own consciousness projected outwardly, as it were, so that my own conscious self stands out in the room and views my body lying on the lounge. About the latter is a bright light, which grows gradually until it has filled all the room, and my conscious self finds itself surrounded by phantoms, most of them of persons who appear to be strangers to me, while others resemble acquaintances who have long been dead. These phantoms walk about and converse in the ordinary way, though not audibly. All the time I am clearly aware of the situation and make useful mental note of whatever I observe, until after a few brief moments the spectacle vanishes and I find myself on the sofa again."

"It is obvious, if ghosts exist at all, that they must be made of some material, and that they are in a sense substantial and possess a semi-material structure. What do I mean by 'semi-material'? It will refer, for illustration, to the ether which is understood to occupy all space. It has waves of known lengths and measured velocity, which strike upon the retina of the eye and produce impressions of light. In short, we know a good deal about this ether, but nobody ever saw a particle of it, thus much as it has not the molecular constitution of ordinary matter. It is 'semi-material.' I have no notion of the nature of the substance that makes a ghost, but I suppose that when a man dies it separates itself from the grosser particles that compose his physical organism, and the latter decomposes, but the spiritual part of the individual does not necessarily share that fate, being composed of finer stuff."

"Did it ever occur to you that we ourselves may be moving in a world of unseen spectators and continually surrounded, whether at home or on our walks abroad by invisible phantoms of the dead? It has been estimated that for every human being now living 3,000 have died on this earth, so that if the spiritual bodies of all preserve existence here after death, we survivors are but a comparative few, passing a brief term of years of what we call life in the flesh amid a vast impalpable swarm of beings incorporeal. Indeed, my notion is that it is only the rare and exceptional ghost that makes itself visible to the living, and that such a phenomenon is to be regarded as wholly extraordinary."

"We have reason now to think that there is no such thing as the highly-conventionalized ghost represented by tradition and described in popular fiction—the corporeal apparition which enters by preference at the stroke of midnight, dressed in a winding sheet, and with a grinning face, and dragging a clanking chain through the sliding panel just by the door while the candles burn blue and the dogs howl demially."

"According to my own observation, and to the testimony of many other reliable persons who have observed such phenomena, the real specter of a dead person shows few signs of life, resembling a human figure more than any thing else to which it is really comparable. It does not speak nor use its limbs in the method of locomotion which it moves being a gliding. It is clothed not in a winding sheet, but in garments such as were worn in life by the individual of whom it is the eidolon, or image."

"It appears by daylight as often as at night, but never with any purpose in its actions that is at all comprehensible. Occasionally it is self-luminous. In most cases it disappears through a door or wall, but often it simply fades away in a shadowy mist. Sometimes the phan-

tasal figure is seen as though illuminated on a dark background; sometimes the contour is indistinct and resembles a luminous cloud; sometimes there is no figure at all, but merely a diffused glow."

The doctor's pipe had gone out. He took a match from the skull of an Indian chief, which served him as a match box, and lighted it again. Then he went on:

"Each of us, I believe, has in him a ghost which ordinarily is confined to the precincts of the body. When I die my ghost leaves my body permanently, and, having done so, perhaps it may continue to be the vehicle and means of expression of conscious will, memory and understanding. St. Paul says: 'There is a natural body and a spiritual body.' It is of the spiritual body I am speaking."

"Our senses take cognizance of no forms of matter except those which are in a certain degree of condensation, but the spiritual body may be of more rarefied and tenuous substance. The non-appearance of ghosts to us may be a question not of the existence of specters, but of the acuteness of our perceptive faculties. My own experience is that the coming of an apparition is always preceded by a curious sensation which I call the 'ghost chill.' When this symptom arrives the threshold of consciousness seems to be shifted to the extent of rendering possible a perception of something ordinarily invisible. The change is usually brief, lasting only a few seconds, during which the manifestations occur."

"I have seen myself the ghosts of a good many dear persons," said the doctor one day. "I remember one occasion when I had just gone to bed, the light being turned out, I was composing myself to slumber when I suddenly became aware of a presence in the room. The impression conveyed to my mind was that of the presence of a person lately deceased, with whom I had been on most intimate terms. In fact, I had an overpowering sense of the nearness of the individual in question."

BIGGEST POOL KNOWN

Is Reported to be Among the Great Eastern Lines

TO PUT EXPENSES DOWN

And Rates Up—Nearly a Billion Capital Stock in It.

New York, Jan. 10.—The great railroad men of the country have formed an offensive and defensive alliance, the details of which are gradually becoming public. The World announced last July that such a movement was in progress.

For several weeks there have been conferences of the leading railroad men of the country, both in this city and in Philadelphia, where final plans have been talked over and the policies of the combination evolved. The men who have mapped out this comprehensive scheme and are carrying it to completion are:

William K. Vanderbilt, J. Pierpont Morgan, A. J. Cassatt, August Belmont, M. E. Ingalls, E. H. Harriman, James J. Hill, George Gould and William Rockefeller.

Having arranged the final details, it is now announced that Mr. Vanderbilt will leave for a trip to Europe, where he will confer with some of the principal holders of securities in the various European money centers, whose friendly co-operation is regarded as necessary.

While it is expected that all the trunk lines of the country will eventually be included in this agreement, which, however, is nothing more than a verbal understanding, the following lines are now believed to be the only ones included:

Railway Lines	Capital Stock
New York Central	\$1,000,000,000
Lake Shore	200,000,000
Pennsylvania	250,000,000
Delaware & Hudson	50,000,000
Del. Lackawanna & Western	20,000,000
Big Four	25,000,000
Norfolk & Western	30,000,000
Cheapeake & Ohio	65,000,000
Baltimore & Ohio	105,000,000
Chicago & Northwestern	84,500,000
Illinois Central	22,000,000
Norfolk Pacific	105,000,000
N. Y. New Haven & Hartford	45,000,000
Lake Erie & Western	23,000,000

The objects of the consolidation are these:

The combination will undertake at once the re-establishing of rates and their maintenance on a permanent basis. It will do away with the payment of commissions on passenger business.

It will begin at once to cut down the expensive passenger and advertising departments of the railroads.

It will abolish the so-called "fast freight lines," which are expensive and unremunerative parasites.

It will do away with the selling agencies and the various subsidiary companies owned and operated by officials of the parent companies.

It will abolish the travelling freight agent as far as possible, as he is universally voted "the root of all evil."

It will resist the demands of all big corporations for rebates, and it will follow the lead of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, co-operate with the Interstate Commerce Commission in the maintenance of laws and rates.

It will establish both the anthracite and bituminous coal trades on a permanently profitable basis.

It will abolish differentials at the Atlantic seaboard and establish a grain tariff from the West to the seaboard based on the prevailing market price of the cereal.

It will take up and provide for a settlement of the labor question as far as possible.

One of the final steps leading to the development of Mr. Vanderbilt's scheme has been the acquisition by the Lake Shore of the Lake Erie and Western Railroad. Soon after the death of Calvin S. Bruce, Vanderbilt interests acquired all the Lake Erie and Western stock held by his estate in the company.

Since then the same interests have been putting up more stock in the market for \$600,000 shares of the preferred stock and an equal amount of common have been transferred to the name of W. K. Vanderbilt. These 1,200,000 shares constitute a majority of the capital stock.

It is understood that the new owners and their representatives will at once take place on the directory and that hereafter the road will be operated as part of the Lake Shore system.

Another deal which is approaching consummation and which explains the great activity of the stock of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad last week is the closer union between the Big Four system and the Lake Shore and the formation of a sub-alliance between the Baltimore and Ohio, the Chesapeake and Ohio, the Norfolk and Western and the Pennsylvania Railroads.

The Wall Street News Bureau, which is regarded as a good authority on the plans of the Morgan-Vanderbilt interests, yesterday printed the following statement, which is believed to be inspired:

"We understand on unimpaired authority that there will be no consolidation of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis (Big Four) and Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads, as has been rumored. While such a project may have once been under consideration by the interests controlling the two properties, abandonment has become necessary on account of the change in relations between the New York Central and the Pennsylvania Railroads which was effected last summer. The C. C. & St. Louis will be united more closely with the New York Central system."

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A Presbyterian minister at Marinette, Wis., gives his unqualified indorsement to Ripans Tabules, saying in part: "It is with great satisfaction that I say they are by far the best thing I ever used for two things—constipation and indigestion. These have been my greatest troubles."

WANTED—A case of bad health that R-I-P-A-N-S will not benefit. They banish pain and prolong life. Give R-I-P-A-N